

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows of a ball-and-socket joint, with a ball, a pivot originating from the ball and with a housing accommodating the ball, the sealing bellows extending between said pivot and the [[ball]] housing and the sealing bellows comprising:

a pivot-side sealing area;

5 a jacket area; and

a housing-side sealing area, said jacket area consisting of an elastomeric material, said pivot-side sealing area of the sealing bellows consisting of a pivot-side sealing area material that differs from the material used for said jacket area of said sealing bellows, said pivot-side sealing area material being a slid able elastomer, said pivot-side sealing area comprising radial sealing lips and axial sealing lips, each of said radial sealing lips extending in a radial direction of the pivot, each of said axial sealing lips extending in an axial direction of the pivot, each of said radial sealing lips engaging said pivot in said radial direction, said axial sealing lips engaging a lug in said axial direction on a side facing in a direction opposite said jacket area.

10 2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein both said pivot-side sealing area and the housing-side sealing area consist of an elastomeric material different from the material of said jacket area.

4. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim [[1]] 3, wherein said pivot-side sealing area or both said pivot-side sealing area and another said housing-side sealing area, has/have a non-positive and/or positive-locking connection or connection in substance with said jacket area.

5. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein said jacket area has at least one reinforcing element, which is preferably arranged close to the at least one pivot-side sealing area.

6. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein said pivot-side sealing area has at least one reinforcing element, which is preferably arranged close to said jacket area.

7. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a reinforcement element provided in at least one of said jacket area and said pivot-side sealing area wherein said reinforcing element consists of plastic and/or metal.

8. (Previously Presented) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 7, wherein said reinforcing element is arranged rotationally symmetrically in relation to said pivot.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein an additional sealing element is provided at least at one said sealing area.

11. (Previously Presented) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one centering element is provided at least between said pivot and said pivot-side sealing area and/or between the housing and the housing-side sealing area.

12. (Previously Presented) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein said jacket area consists of chloroprene rubber with a hardness of approx. 50 ± 10 Shore A.

13. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim [[1]] 12, wherein at least one said sealing area consists of a nitrile rubber, ~~preferably~~ with a hardness of ~~approx:~~ approximately 70 ± 10 Shore A.

14. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows of a ball-and-socket joint having a ball pivot, a lug and a housing accommodating a ball of the ball pivot, the sealing bellows extending between said ball pivot and said housing, the sealing bellows comprising:

5 a pivot-side sealing area comprising a pivot-side sealing area surface, said pivot-side sealing area surface defining a plurality of first projections and a plurality of second projections, each of said first projections extending in a radial direction of the pivot, each of said second projections extending in an axial direction of the pivot; and

10 a jacket area, said jacket area being formed of an elastomeric material, said pivot-side sealing area consisting of a pivot-side sealing area material that differs from the material forming said jacket areas, said pivot-side sealing area material having a coefficient of friction that is less than a coefficient of friction of the ball pivot, wherein said pivot-side sealing area material is slidable along the pivot, at least one of said first projections engaging the pivot, at least one of said axial projections engaging a side of the lug located opposite said jacket area.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 14, further comprising another a housing-side sealing area adjacent to said pivot-side sealing area, at least one of said pivot-side sealing area and said another housing-side sealing area being one of non-positively connected to said jacket area, positive-lockingly connected to said jacket area and connected in substance with said jacket area.

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17. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 14, further comprising a reinforcing element within said jacket area, said reinforcing element being arranged close to said pivot-side sealing area.

18. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 14 further comprising a reinforcing element within said pivot-side sealing area, said reinforcing element

being arranged close to said jacket area.

19. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 14, further comprising a reinforcement element provided in at least one of said jacket area and said pivot-side sealing area wherein said reinforcing element is formed of plastic and/or metal.

20. (Currently Amended) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 19, wherein said reinforcing element is arranged rotationally symmetrically in relation to said ball pivot.

21. (New) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 1, wherein said pivot-side sealing area has a jacket-side contacting surface, said jacket area having a pivot-side contacting surface, said jacket-side contacting surface engaging said pivot-side contacting surface.

22. (New) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 21, wherein said pivot-side sealing area is connected to said jacket area.

23. (New) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 5, wherein one portion of said reinforcing element is surrounded by said elastomeric material of said jacket area, another portion of said reinforcing element extending in a direction of said pivot such a surface of said reinforcing element engages said pivot.

24. (New) A sealing bellows of a ball-and-socket joint, with a ball, a pivot originating from the ball and with a housing accommodating the ball, the sealing bellows extending between said pivot and the ball housing and the sealing bellows comprising:

a pivot-side sealing area;

5 a jacket area; and

a housing-side sealing area, said jacket area consisting of an elastomeric material, said pivot-side sealing area of the sealing bellows consisting of a pivot-side sealing area material, said pivot-side sealing area material being an elastomer, said pivot-side sealing area material being different from said elastomeric material, said jacket area having at least one reinforcing element, said reinforcing element being arranged adjacent to said pivot-side sealing area, said reinforcing element having a first reinforcing portion and a second reinforcing portion, said elastomeric material of said jacket area engaging said first reinforcing portion such that said elastomeric material surrounds said first reinforcing portion, said second reinforcing portion extending in a direction of the pivot such that a portion of said second reinforcing portion is in contact with the pivot.

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15 25. (New) A sealing bellows in accordance with claim 24, wherein said reinforcing element is seated on a shoulder portion of the pivot such that said jacket area cannot move in a direction of said shoulder portion.